

## SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

The 6th November, 1981

No. 3030-SW(1)-81. These rules shall be called "The Haryana Handicapped Persons Pension Rules" and shall be applicable throughout the State of Haryana. These rules shall come into operation from the date of publication.

## AIM

2. The aim of these rules is to provide social security by way of grant of financial assistance to handicapped persons who are without any means of subsistence and cannot do any work to earn their livelihood.

## ELIGIBILITY

3. The following categories of persons shall be entitled to this pension :—

(i) The Blind

.. The blind are those who suffer from the following conditions :—

(a) Total absence of sight.

(b) Visual acuity not exceeding 3/60 to 10/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses.

The Deaf

.. The deaf are those in whom the sense of hearing is non-functional for the ordinary purpose in life.

The Orthopaedically Handicapped

.. The orthopaedically handicapped are those who have a physical defect or deformity which cause an interference with the normal functioning of the bones, muscles and joints.

(ii) Handicapped persons above the age of 21 years who are destitute and have no means of subsistence and cannot do any work to earn their livelihood shall be eligible for pension provided that in either case they are domiciled and have resided in the Haryana State for more than 3 years at the time of making an application. A person shall be deemed to be destitute if his relatives e.g. sons, husband, wife is not in a position to support him/her and his own income from all sources is below Rs. 50/- per mensem.

*Note.*—(i) Persons who have adult son(s) shall be termed as destitute for this purpose if the monthly income of such earning hands falls within the following limits :—

(a) An unmarried son(s) having a monthly income not exceeding Rs. 150 ;

(b) A married son(s) with no child having a monthly income not exceeding Rs. 200 ;

(c) A further allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem per child being allowed subject to a maximum of Rs. 300 p.m. per family but sons who have to shoulder responsibilities of higher education of their own dependents shall be decided with the approval of the Administrative Secy.

(ii) In cases where husband or wife is able bodied and the monthly income of such able bodied person exceeds Rs. 150 p.m., the handicapped member i.e. the applicant shall not be eligible for this pension.

(iii) Where both wife and husband are handicapped according to the definition, each one of them shall be eligible for assistance ;

(iv) Professional beggars and medicants shall not be considered to be handicapped but persons who are not actually beggars but get occasional assistance from some other people may be allowed pension, if they, otherwise are eligible and the sanctioning authority is satisfied that they are really destitute.

## MAKING OF APPLICATION

4. Application for pension shall be submitted in form "HP-I" by intending applicants to the Deputy Commissioner, or the Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) or the Tehsildar, the Block Development and Panchayat Officer or District Welfare Officer of the area in which the applicant resides. The requisite application forms shall be obtainable free of charge from any of the aforementioned authorities or the office of the Director, Social Welfare, Haryana.

### VERIFICATION

5. (i) It shall be the duty of the authorities mentioned in para 4 above to carry out detailed enquiries into the financial position of the applicant and into other particulars given in the application form, and the age of the applicant along with eligibility as defined above shall be supported by a medical certificate issued by a Medical Officer of a Government dispensary in form HP-2(i), (ii), (iii).

### POWER TO SANCTION PENSION

6. The Director, Social Welfare shall be the sanctioning authority who shall pass orders on each case on the basis of the recommending authority and/or spot verification conducted by departmental investigator or other official specifically deputed for this purpose. The decision of the Director, Social Welfare shall be final. The orders passed on each case shall be communicated to the applicant and the local recommending authority.

### STOPPING OF PENSION

7. (i) The sanctioning authority shall have the right to stop payment of pension, if at any stage, it is found that it was sanctioned on a mistaken ground of false information or the conditions for which the pension was granted no longer exist. If a grantee resorted to professional begging, pension shall be forfeited.

(ii) Pension shall cease to be payable on the death of a pensioner and if the grantee dies before receiving pension for a particular period, the same shall lapse.

(iii) Further good conduct is an implied condition to the payment of pension. The sanctioning authority shall have the right of withholding or suspending payment of pension if the pensioner be convicted of crime involving moral turpitude.

(iv) In case pension is sanctioned on the basis of wrong information given by the applicant in his application form, the amount given would be recovered as arrears of land revenue. In case of deliberate wrong information prosecutions will be launched.

#### Change of address:

8. It shall be obligatory on a pensioner to intimate any change of address to the Director, Social Welfare. Persons shifting to place outside the Haryana State for a period exceeding three months shall not be eligible for this benefit. But in case involving real hardship, the sanctioning authority may permit payment of pension to such a person for a longer period if he is satisfied that the shifting of the pensioner was absolutely essential. In no case, however, pension shall be payable if a pensioner prolongs his/her stay outside Haryana for a period of exceeding one year.

#### Periodical check up:

9. The cases of pensioner shall be subjected to periodical checkup by the Investigator or any other officer/official specifically deputed for this purpose.

#### Mode of payment:

10. Pension shall be payable by money order without deduction of money order commission, the cost of which shall be borne by Government. In exceptional cases involving real hardship the sanctioning authority shall have the option to make payment of pension in cash provided he is satisfied that a particular person is the right payee.

11. Payment of pension shall be made every quarter in the last month of the quarter to which it pertains Government may, however, at its discretion order payment of pension at such a shorter interval as may be deemed necessary.

### PART II—ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE

The following paragraphs shall regulate the accounting procedure in respect of the Handicapped. Persons Pension Rules.

#### Registration of applications:

13. On receipt of an application in the prescribed form, it shall be recorded in the receipt register (Form-3) maintained in the office of the Director, Social Welfare. Every applicant will be issued an acknowledgement card indicating the registration number of his/her application for all future correspondence.

14. Pensions shall be sanctioned for the financial year during which these are granted and shall be subjected to renew from year to year. The details of the pensioners shall be maintained in form HP-4.

15. Pension shall become payable from the first of the month in which it is sanctioned. The rate of pension shall be Rs. 50 per mensem per head or such other rate as may be decided by Government from time to time.

16. Pension under this scheme shall not be liable to attachment under any court of law.

17. Record of all the payments of pensions shall be maintained in the Personal Ledger Register in form HP-5 and each pensioner shall be allocated a separate page and Account No. in the Ledger which shall be maintained District-wise.

18. Every money order form shall be stamped prominently with the words "HARYANA HANDICAPPED PERSONS PENSION". Similarly the money order acknowledgements shall be stamped with the words "HARYANA HANDICAPPED PERSON PENSION" for THE QUARTER ENDING period to which the payment relates being filled in manuscript at the time of issuing the money order. It shall be particularly borne in mind that before the money order is issued the correct name with parentage husbandage and complete address of the payee is given. A responsible officer official nominated by the Director, Social Welfare shall sign the money order and initial the entries in the Personal Ledger Account Register, after carefully comparing the concerned documents. The postal authorities, are requested to issue instructions to the postmen charged with this task to disburse the amount of money order in regard to "HARYANA HANDICAPPED PERSONS PENSION" to the actual payee only and to none else. In the presence of a literate person who shall witness the payment and shall also record a certificate of identification. As most of the payees are likely to be illiterate, the thumb-impression of the payee shall be obtained in the money order form in the presence of a literate person whose signature should also appear on the receipt.

*Note.*—In case where a pensioner due to loss of fingers cannot sign or put his/her thumb-impression on the money order form acknowledgement payment shall be made by the post Office in accordance with Postal Department Rules,—vide G.O. No. 383 (P XXX VI-B-22 (P)-1957, dated 3rd June, 1960.

19. No payment shall be made for the next quarter unless the money order acknowledgement has been received for the previous quarter, and a note to that effect recorded in the appropriate column of the Personal Ledger Account or till a satisfactory proof is available that the money order has been correctly paid to the right pensioner for the last quarter.

20. Every quarter the Personal Ledger Account shall be examined and those pensions which have remained up-paid shall be enquired into. Payee acknowledgement shall be watched in the Pension Branch and on receipt shall be serially arranged districtwise and entered in the appropriate column of the Personal Ledger Account and stamped as "CANCELLED". If the payee acknowledgement is delayed for more than 45 days from the date of issue of the money order or if a complaint is received regarding non-payment, the sanctioning authority shall forthwith make necessary enquiries from the Postal Authorities. Payee acknowledgement shall be recorded and kept under lock and key in the office for a period of two years or till the Account have been audited, whichever is later.

#### Handling of cash:

21. With a view to avoiding the handling of huge cash payment to the postal authorities shall be made as far as possible through bank drafts issued in favour of the Postal Department.

#### Undisbursed Money Orders:

22. The most important feature of this scheme is the proper watch and maintenance of account of money orders which are returned by the Postal Authorities as undisbursed. Casualty rate amongst the pensioners shall be very high. It is, therefore, most important to ensure that the money order is not disbursed to any other persons except the payee himself/herself and whenever the postman finds that the pensioner had died or is reported to be not available, it shall be the duty of the postal authorities to return the money order immediately to the Director, Social Welfare or any other officer the Government may appoint. All the undisbursed money orders shall be received by the Director, Social Welfare himself/herself or the Drawing and Disbursing Officer declared under the Scheme and a proper record of such amounts kept in a separate register in form H.P.-6. Each entry in this register shall be initialed by the receiving Officers/Officials.

23. The amounts which are received back as undisbursed shall be taken on the cash book and the entire amount thus received shall be refundable by the short drawal from subsequent pension bill.

24. The Director, Social Welfare shall be overall incharge of the Haryana Handicapped Persons Pension Scheme and necessary instructions in regards to its proper enforcement and accounting procedure shall be issued by him from time to time. He will be assisted by the Deputy Director/Joint Director who shall perform the functions of Drawing and Disbursing Officer and will be responsible to advice him on all matters relating to this scheme.

25. The expenditure on the Scheme including the cost of money order forms and money order commission shall be debitable to the head "288-Social Security and Welfare—D—Social Welfare—D—III—Education and Welfare of Handicapped—(vi)—Pension to Handicapped."

TIRLOCHAN SINGH,

Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Haryana,  
Social Welfare Department.